

	OPERATING PROCEDURE	
	<i>HYPERTENSION</i>	
	Effective Date: November 1, 1986	Revised: July 1, 2000
	Approved By: 	
Approved By Operational Medical Director: 		

BLS

1. Perform initial patient assessment and note:

- ✓ Patient's signs/symptoms including
- ✓ Headache
- ✓ Nosebleed
- ✓ blurred vision
- ✓ slurred speech
- ✓ altered mental status.
- ✓ History of CVA and/or TIA
- ✓ History of cardiac illness
- ✓ Pregnancy
- ✓ Current medications

2. Establish and maintain patent airway, administer OXYGEN, and provide ventilatory assistance as required. Use airway adjuncts as needed.

ALS ONLY

3. Connect patient to cardiac monitor and document rhythm strip. Treat life-threatening dysrhythmias according to appropriate protocol

4. Establish an IV of 0.9% Sodium Chloride. Do not delay transport to establish IV access.

MEDICAL CONTROL ONLY

5. If patient is symptomatic, administer NITROGLYCERIN:

- Adult: 1 tablet of 1/150 gr (0.4 mg) sublingually every 5 minutes, not to exceed three (3) dosages.

6. Other interventions as ordered by On-Line Medical Control